**YOT – Practice standards.**

**We work in partnership with all agencies to reduce offending, reoffending and first time entrants. Our focus is preventative services in our multi agency team.**

**We provide interventions for children and young people from the ages of 10 – 18 years.**

**We work with both statutory and voluntary young people and their families.**

When a young person enters the youth justice system an assessment (asset plus) will be done by the YOT caseworker. This will include information from a number of sources, such as school, health, police and contact with the young person and their family. They will receive mental health and Speech and Language screen as part of their assessment

The assessment will include protective factors and any safeguarding issues.

The young person will have the opportunity to include their views and this will be taken into account.  Parents/Carers will also be encouraged to engage with the YOT, will be offered a parenting worker as well as an opportunity to include their views in the assessment.

The assessment will also consider areas of desistance which will inform the intervention plan.

An intervention plan will be agreed and completed within 15 working days from the sentence of the Court, with a focus on achievable change by setting goals and realistic timescales.

The young person will receive a visit at home within 10 working days at the beginning of the order and at least quarterly thereafter. The visiting expectations will be clearly recorded on the system.

The young person will be required to attend regular appointments with the YOT caseworker based on the assessed risk and need level as determined by the scaled approach to determine the likelihood of re-offending.

The intervention plan and work with the young person will be reviewed as required but no less than quarterly or when there is a significant event in their life which requires a further assessment of risk. The review will state the work that has been done, the impact of the work and any evidence of change.

Risk management (Future Risk of offending) and vulnerability (Safety and Wellbeing) will always be considered as part of the work to safeguard the young person.

Non-compliance will always be discussed with the line manager and every attempt will be made to re-engage with the young person in the first instance.

After 3 non-compliances, a panel will be convened and chaired by the line manager/YOT manager. The young person will be invited to attend with parent or carer to discuss the

reasons for their absences. If this is accepted, the young person will be given a warning. Any further breaches will lead to the order being returned to Court.

In cases where the young person is returned to Court for breach, the Court has a variety of options including resentencing for the original offence, imposing a financial penalty or to take no further action. There will be occasions when a resentencing for the original offence will lead to the young person being sentenced to a custodial sentence.

All young people who receive a substantive outcome after committing an offence are supervised by the local YOT.

If the young person makes good progress on their order, the YOT can return the case to Court for consideration by the Court to revoke the order on the grounds of good progress and reduced risk of re-offending.

If the young person turns 18 during the order, they may be transferred to Probation or if deemed more suitable to the young person’s needs the YOT may hold the case until the end of the order.

YOT will also work with young people at risk of offending, to prevent them coming into the criminal justice system. Referrals will generally come through Targeted Help, Social Care, Police or Youth Tasking.  The YOT will complete an Early Help assessment and Plan within 15 working days and then may offer an intervention up to three months.

YOT can make a joint 370 recommendation with the police to divert a young person from an Out of Court disposal via YOT and diversionary activities. The offence will be NFA’d and the young person will not have record of offending behaviour.